

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS – PLYMOUTH DISTRICT  
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY



**TIMOTHY J. CRUZ**  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**MAIN OFFICE:**  
32 Belmont Street  
P.O. BOX 1665  
Brockton, MA 02303-1665  
Tel: (508) 584-8120  
Fax: (508) 586-3578

**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release:**  
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**Contact: ADA Bridget Norton Middleton**  
**(508) 584-8120**

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**BROCKTON, MA-** Plymouth County District Attorney Timothy J. Cruz today announced that on December 2, 2014, at 9:00 a.m. Superior Court Judge Robert Cosgrove will hear the defendant's Motion for Judgment of Acquittal Notwithstanding the Verdict in the case of Commonwealth v. Pilalas. A jury found Pilalas guilty of 2<sup>nd</sup> degree murder on November 7, 2014 following a six day trial in Brockton Superior Court. The defendant is requesting that the court either set aside the jury's guilty verdict and enter a judgment of acquittal, reduce the murder conviction to manslaughter or grant him a new trial.

Nicholas Pilalas, (DOB: 1/24/85) of Middleboro was convicted of Murder in the Second Degree for the November 6, 2011 homicide of Dalton Goulart. The defendant was also found guilty of two counts of Assault with a Dangerous Weapon and Assault and Battery. The Commonwealth presented evidence that on November 6, 2011, the defendant stabbed unarmed Dalton Goulart in the town of Middleboro.

The case was investigated by the Middleboro Police and the State Police assigned to the Plymouth County District Attorney's Office. The case was tried before Superior Court Judge Robert Cosgrove. Following the verdict, the defendant was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole after fifteen years. The defendant was given time served on the remaining charges. The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Jeremy Beth Kusmin and E. Russell Eonas.

Dalton Goulart grew up in Middleboro in a family with three siblings, including an identical twin brother.

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